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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/740,207

12/18/2003

Kleomenis Barlos

21526

2134

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7590

05/25/2006

HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE INC.
PATENT LAW DEPARTMENT
340 KINGSLAND STREET
NUTLEY, NJ 07110

EXAMINER

PRICE, ELVIS O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1621

DATE MAILED: 05/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/740,207

Applicant(s)

BARLOS ET AL.

Examiner

Elvis O. Price

Art Unit

1621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, and 5-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5-9 are pending in the application.
2. Applicants' amendment, filed 2/28/06, has overcome the 35 USC 102(b) rejection issued in the Office Action dated 9/23/05.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harre et al. {Reactive & functional Polymers 41 (1999), pp. 111-114}.

Applicants claim a process for preparing solid phase bonded 2-chlorotrityl chloride of formula I, in the presence of HCl and an organic solvent.

Harre et al. teach a process for preparing solid phase bonded 2-chlorotrityl chloride, comprising reacting solid phase bonded hydroxylated 2-chlorotrityl in the presence of a chlorination agent (thionyl chloride) and an organic solvent (methylene chloride) (see section 2.2 and 4.1). The difference between the presently claimed invention and what is taught by the Harre et al. reference is that Harre et al. do not teach HCl as a chlorinating agent, the use of other solvent (such as dioxane) besides methylene chloride and reaction times from 6 to 96 hours.

However, the use of any chlorination agent, solvent and reaction time would have been obvious, absent any unexpected results, to one having ordinary skill in the art.

One having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to experiment with different solvents, chlorinating agents and reaction times (depending on cost and availability of such reagents) so as to arrive at optimum results or at the very least arrive at other art recognizable alternative means of preparing the said solid phase bonded 2-chlorotriyl chloride of formula I. The presently claimed invention would have been therefore obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art.

Response to Arguments

Applicants' arguments filed 2/28/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that HCl utilized as the chlorinating agent allows for the recycled resin to have an unexpectedly high active chlorine content and the use of HCl and its advantages are not disclosed or suggested by the cited reference.

This argument is not convincing. Although the Harre et al. reference does not teach HCl as the chlorinating agent, it is well known in the art and to those having ordinary skill in the art that HCl can be utilized as a chlorinating agent. As for applicants claim to the recycled resin having an unexpectedly high active chlorine content when HCl is utilized as the chlorinating agent, the Examiner finds no support for such an assertion. Applicants' examples in the present specification (see Table 1 also) is not a true side by side comparison of an HCl chlorinating agent versus other chlorinating agents (especially thionyl chloride) in that the solvent and amount of chlorinating agent

used for the HCl experiments are different from those used for the experiments where other chlorinating agents are utilized.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

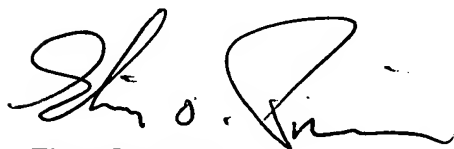
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elvis O. Price whose telephone number is 571 272-0644. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on 571 272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elvis O. Price". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "E" and a cursive "Price".

Elvis O. Price